God’s Will
I admire those who seem certain of God’s will for their lives. I feel a little inadequate at times in the face of such certainty having been gifted with a large rear vision mirror and a dodgy crystal ball. It is still wise to wear out the mirror though - God’s purpose in retrospect can be very instructive.

The recipe for the trajectory of our College has lacked complexity – pray; plan; proceed with integrity; pause and ponder the padlocks; then pray again – proceed, postpone or pull the plug; praise God that His plan was better than our plan – replicate the process. The most important part of the process (and ironically, the most easily missed) is prayer. Prayer can be easily misunderstood as a shopping list for Heaven’s supermarket. We tend to pray to God with a solution in mind, unintentionally reducing God to a finger-click operated cosmic vending machine, as if the Creator was somehow subject to His creation. Expectations for the success of such prayer is prone to disappointment.

Here are a couple of humble prayers. The first is from a soldier –

I asked God for strength that I might achieve;
I was made weak so that I might learn to humbly obey.
I asked for health, that I might do greater things;
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.
I asked for riches, that I might be happy;
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men;
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life;
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for-- but everything I hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among all men, most richly blessed. Source: Soul Snack 102/12

The second is from a Catholic Monk, Thomas Merton –

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am actually following your Will does not mean I am actually doing so. But I believe the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me in the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and will never leave me to face my perils alone. Source: Soul Snack 227/11

Like any parent, God wants us to chat to him. There is no format or rule book. Maybe, tell Him he’s a great dad. Be honest about your mistakes and ask that He help you do better next time. Lay your problems out before Him and ask for help. And don’t forget to pray for others – life is a team event.

Ask that “not my will but yours be done”. His answer is likely to be better than yours.
The Chair of the College Council, Mr Ron Webb, has asked that the beautifully painted portrait of the Foundation Headmaster, Dr Quarmby, might be hung in our new Alfred Deakin Administration Centre. In making the suggestion, Mr Webb indicated that the tradition in many Independent schools is to recognise the contribution of the Founding Head by displaying his/her portrait in a prominent area within the school.

The portrait was painted by local renown artist, Mr Dave Thomas who lives in the Southern Highlands. Dave was born in Wales and studied in Welsh and English colleges during the 1970s. He travelled internationally around the globe in the 1980s and has been a finalist in the 'Archibald Prize' twice. His portraits hang in many esteemed venues across the country including Parliament House, Canberra and now Wollondilly Anglican College. Sittings for the portrait were also assisted by Ms Maggie Destefanis who worked here at WAC for a number of years as the Creative Arts Teacher before leaving to start her family.

**Foundation Day**

On Friday, 5 June the College will celebrate Foundation Day. The focus of the day is on raising funds to support the various missions supported by the College. Students have been involved in learning more about these as part of the Pastoral Program this Term. The Mission Fundraising Champion House will be announced on the day and awarded to the House that raises the most money. The Champion of the Activity Shield will be based on the most points amassed by a House as part of the Junior and Senior relay afternoon. It is anticipated that the Overall winning House of the Athletics Carnival will be announced at the end of the afternoon. This is a gala event with the whole College coming together to spectate. If parents are able to come along and watch this event it would be greatly appreciated. It is a fantastic spectacle. The following information is really important for all students and parents to be aware of:

### Reminders

1. All students are encouraged to be generous and make a minimum donation of $5.00 or $10.00 per family. This will be collected on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

2. All students T-12 need to wear House Shirt and College Sports Winter Uniform (Tracksuit Jacket and Tracksuit pants). This will require a quick turn-around on uniform particularly from the Senior College students. This is essential on this occasion due to the House based nature of the event. Student and parent co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

3. This event will commence with an Assembly under the Sails at 1.15 pm. The relays are scheduled to commence at approximately 1.45 pm. Announcements and dismissal will take place at approximately 2.15 pm.

4. There is no parking nearby to the WACA. Please park in a car space (not the student car park) and walk across to the WACA. For any parent/grandparent who is less mobile there will be a shuttle service provided from the student car park area at the back of Flynn.

5. Parents are reminded to ensure that any photos taken which include students who are not your child must not be posted on social media.
Empathy

In difficult circumstances we often find that we are in need of support from those who are around us. We find that we need a person who we can turn to, who will listen and understand our situation. We simply need an ear, that will listen and support us through hard times. And in return, we find ourselves being that support person for other people. We become the shoulder for them to cry on when they need it most. But it’s more than just being there, it’s more than just being someone they can talk to. There are many qualities we must take on board when we are trying to comfort someone who is facing difficult circumstances.

Initially, when someone shares with us something that is incredibly painful, our response is usually sympathetic. We feel bad for their situation and we try to fix that with our support. Another reaction, is empathetic. Empathetic is the idea that we understand and share the perspective and emotions of other people. It’s diving deeper than just showing sympathy. Theresa Wiseman, a nursing scholar came up with four qualities of empathy. Perspective taking, where we take on board the emotions and situation of another, and accept that as their truth as what is real. There’s staying out of judgement, being accepting and understanding to where they are coming from. There’s recognising the emotion in other people and then communicating this emotion.

An easy way to think about empathy, is if you imagine someone stuck in a dark hole, they are scared, overwhelmed and need help. You come down, into that hole and assure them that they are not alone. You level yourself to them and find an emotion within yourself that can relate to what they are experiencing.

Sympathy is sitting at the top of the hole, looking down and saying ‘oh, that’s bad hey’. We understand that what they are going through is difficult but we don’t comprehend it within ourselves. What we need to recognise, that rarely ever does an empathetic response start with ‘at least’. ‘At least it will be over soon’. ‘At least we are all here for you’. These kinds of responses are trying to put some kind of silver lining on someone else’s pain, to try and alleviate their grief. We try to make things better by offering suggestions providing them with some kind of positive outlook.

While it is a good gesture, sympathy isn’t always the right approach to consoling someone facing hard times. Empathy, is what we should be trying to achieve. In order to be that good support person, we need to show them empathy. We need to be the utmost of understanding because if you were to share your pain with someone else, you would want to be understood. You would want other people to see your perspective because it verifies where you stand. And everyone deserves to be verified.

The main idea of empathy, is providing connection. It’s not trying to find a solution or the right words to say to fix how others feel. It’s simply being there, being totally present, and understanding. The most important thing to achieve is the other person feeling supported and understood. Rarely ever does your response make things better, what makes things better are connections.

So when you become that support person, don’t try and fix things, don’t try to put a silver lining on their grief. Just listen, put yourself in their perspective and understand where they are coming from. Because you can make someone feel a whole lot better about their experiences by simply being there and assuring them that they are not alone.
Promoting a sense of responsibility
What does your child do that someone else relies on? Most people shift a little uneasily when I ask this question in parenting seminars!

It’s not meant to make you feel guilty. It’s meant to provoke some thought and make a point about developing responsibility in kids.

I’m often asked by parents how to develop responsibility in kids. The answer is simple – give responsibility to them! Let them feed the family pet, empty the dishwasher, clean up the living area at the end of the day.

Most kids rise to a real challenge when it’s sincerely given, and backed by realistic expectations.

We tend to give responsibility to the kids who don’t need it – the easy kids. But we often ignore the kids in our family who really would benefit from giving them some trust – the difficult kids, those who require following up, or some parental work.

**Kids belong in two ways to families** – they either belong due to their **positive contribution** or they belong through **poor behaviour**. The family pest has as much cache as the responsible child – their parents know they are around!!!

It makes sense for parents to work hard to provide opportunities for kids to contribute to their family so they feel valued for what they bring to their family, rather than for what they take.

Here are three practical tips to promote a sense of responsibility in your kids:

1. **Start early**: Children as young as three are keen to help and take some responsibility but we often push them away and say, ‘You can help when you’re older.’ Train your kids from a young age to help themselves and others.

2. **If a child forgets then no one else does the task**. If a child doesn’t empty the dishwasher then it is still there when they come home from school. Sounds tough but that’s how the real world operates. When you empty it, it becomes your responsibility.

3. **Don’t give kids jobs where you have an emotional attachment**. Give them tasks that you know that you can live without if they are not done, or not done to your standard.

Another thing! Many parents call this type of responsibility ‘jobs’ or ‘chores’. I prefer to call it ‘help’. It’s just a little rebranding, but it reflects what it’s about.

Grose (2015)

**Mr Liam Toland**
**Acting Deputy Headmaster / Director of Pastoral Care T-12**
Year 11 2016 Subject Selection Night – 9 June (Week 8) – 7.00 pm
On Tuesday, 9 June an Information Night will be held to assist Year 10 with their decision-making for Year 11, 2016. During the evening staff will address the need to make informed decisions with regard to returning to the College and subject selections.

The students and parents who attend the evening will also receive information on how students can nominate their preferences for the subjects to be delivered for Year 11, 2016. Parents and students will also have the opportunity to ask questions and gain further information from the staff present at the evening. The evening will commence at 7.00 pm in the Warne Auditorium. Students attending will need to wear their College uniform.

Year 10 students received their Subject Information Booklets on Monday. It is recommended that parents read through the booklet and discuss some options with their son or daughter before the information evening.

Year 11 and 12 Interviews
Most Year 11 and 12 students have now completed an evaluation of their progress to date. Starting this week, I am conducting interviews with Year 12 with a view of helping them prepare for the HSC Trial Examinations and, ultimately, the HSC Examinations. Interviews with Year 11 will occur later in the term, and more information will follow in the coming weeks.

Year 9 2016 Information Night – Week 10
Just so Year 8 parents are aware, Subject Selection Night is in the last week of term. It is expected that Year 8 students will receive their Subject Selection Information Booklet in Week 8. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

Class Changes in Secondary
At the end of the Semester there is an opportunity to review the class placements in Years 7-10. There is the potential for students to be moved due to their academic performance or for pastoral reasons. Parents should note that their child’s position in the Grace class is not permanently guaranteed. Students need to work to a high standard to maintain a position in the Grace class.

Parents will be notified if their child is going to be moved.

UWS Campbelltown
Last Saturday, Nathan Moore (11), Nathaniel Sullivan (11), Ryan King (11) and Laura Fleming (12) visited the Proteomics Laboratories, run by Professor Jens Coorssen, at UWS Campbelltown. They spent time touring the laboratories, learning about the techniques that are used in the analysis of proteins, as well as finding out about the research that is being done there, including cutting edge research into Multiple Sclerosis. After the tour, the students went into one of the laboratories, where they began the analysis of proteins for their research projects, including the protein comparison of “superfoods” and the comparison of proteins in the leaves of native and non-native trees. A big thank you to Jens, Perry, Deepti, Arlene, Nour and Kiel for giving up their time to help these students connect with cutting edge science.

Dr Andrew Eaton
Acting Director of Studies
Celebrating Library Week:
Reading Aloud is Fun: students from Years 5-12 visited the junior classes and read storybooks during roll call on Wednesday.

National Simultaneous Storytime: “The Brothers Quibble” by Aaron Blabely.
“The Brothers Quibble” was the selected Australian book for Library storytime this year. Children all over the country read this book during library week. At WAC students from T-2 watched a dramatic interpretation of the book performed by Mrs Talbot’s Year 9 Drama class. After a short discussion the students retold the story and used some very enthusiastic volunteers from the T-2 classes. It was a really enjoyable play.

Live a life well read.

Mrs Louise Saint-John
IRC Coordinator
KINDERGARTEN EXCURSION

Kindergarten students are excited to be going on excursion this term to support their learning of ‘Paddock to Plate’. The excursion will take us to Gavana Holstein’s Dairy Farm, Glenmore. The date of the excursion will be Friday, 12 June. The students will be required to wear full winter sports uniform. The excursion will run during normal College hours so there will not be any anticipated interruption to normal drop off and collection routines. We look forward to this exciting event!

Mrs Katherine Frost
Primary Teacher

PRIMARY SPORTS

NASSA Primary Cross Country 2015
A wonderful effort by all the team who attended last week’s carnival at Macarthur. Jayde Gitto led the way (literally) with a wonderful 2nd place in tough conditions. Thomas Chell, Ella Nance, Jayde Gitto, Kloe Cartisano, Isabelle Robertson and James Jones also made the NASSA team. They will be heading to NSWCIS at Eastern Creek raceway on Thursday, 11 June 2015. A big thanks to Mr Houweling and Mrs Turner for their assistance with driving and marshalling on the day.

WAC Primary Athletics Carnival 2015
Tomorrow is College Foundation Day and as part of our celebrations primary will be participating in two mixed house relays of Years 3-4 and Years 5-6 as part of the whole College relay events. Students have been told if they have been selected so come along and cheer from 1.35 pm at the WACA.

WAC T-2 Athletics Carnival 2015
It’s that time to grab the joggers and get ready for the annual carnival. This will be held at the College front oval area, Friday, 19 June 2015, starting from 12.55 pm. Parents and friends are very welcome to come and cheer on this special event.

NSWCIS Boys’ Rugby Union Trials 2015
Congratulations to Brett Harriman who attended the NSWCIS Boys Rugby Union trials at Homebush last Monday. We hear he had an enjoyable time trialling with some of the best Rugby players in NSWCIS. Well done Brett!

Darren Wayne
Primary Sports Coordinator 2015
SECONDARY SPORT

MISA
Round 5 of MISA was played this week against Magdalene Catholic High School. Our 8/9 Boys' Soccer team had a great win 3-1 whilst our Boys' Softball team continued their undefeated run in a hard fought 2-0 win. Despite going down 6-1 the Girls' Softball team played well and it was noted by the coaches that the general atmosphere and attitude of the players was fantastic. Next week we play Macarthur Anglican School. All the best to each of the teams involved.

WAC Athletics Carnival
The Secondary Athletics carnival was held today Thursday, 4 June. Thank you to the students who contributed to the running of events as helpers as well as to those students who participated on the day. Remember, those students who qualified for the 4x100m relays you must bring your running gear tomorrow so you can participate in the relay events as part of the Foundation Day activities. The House group with the most points from each of the relays will be crowned Foundation Day Champions. A full team list will be distributed by the end of Week 8 with permission notes for those competitors who have made the WAC Team to compete at the NASSA carnival on Wednesday, 25 June at Campbelltown Athletics Track.

Sports Uniform Requirements
As stated in the Student Diary on Tuesdays all students are required to wear their full College tracksuit both to and from the College. Students have been reminded on numerous occasions of what is expected. Uniform infringements will be issued to students who do not comply with these expectations.

Upcoming events:
- NASSA Athletics – Thursday, 25 June (Week 10)
- Term 3 MISA Trials – Tuesday, 23 June (Week 10)
- NASSA Soccer (football) Gala Day – Monday, 3 August (Term 3)
- AICES Athletics – Friday, 21 August (Term 3)

Mr Mark Goldsborough
Secondary Sports Coordinator

PRIMARY COLLEGE SPORT AND IPSSO

IPSSO
Next week IPSSO games are at WAC. We are playing Broughton Anglican College. Junior games will start at 11.55 am and senior games will start at 12.45 pm.

College Sport
Gymnastics will begin again after last week’s break for the Athletics Carnival. For the rest of the term students will also be focusing on target and striking activities.

Mr Stuart Houweling
Primary Teacher
**AUF DEUTSCH BITTE!**

It is with great pride that I announce our amazing results in the **Language Perfect World Championships**. At the close of competition at 5.00 pm last Thursday, Wollondilly students had answered an amazing 378,611 questions in 10 days. There were 83 of our students who earned a certificate for their efforts. These certificates should arrive at the College by the end of term and will be distributed in class and at assemblies. Special mention today goes to our six **Gold recipients**: **Jack Marshall** on 4,067; **Riley Boon** 3,774; **Madilyn McKinley** 3,333; **Nikita Sicca** 3,255; **Kirralee Miller** 3,187 and **Patrick Halebian** 3,072. Out of 836 schools doing German in the competition across the world, Wollondilly finished a creditable 8th. Out of 135 NSW schools doing German we finished **FIRST!**

In other news I am happy to announce that Year 8 German students will be enjoying the annual German breakfast on **Wednesday, 10 June**. The breakfast will be served after roll call in the art courtyard. Students will not only sample a traditional German breakfast, but will also put their speaking skills to the test, as they ask for various foods in German.

Remember **"Monolingualism is curable. Learn a second language!"**.

*Mrs Carolyn Clark*
German Teacher

**SPORTING ACHIEVERS**

**Martial Arts Championships**
Dane Clark - Year 4, competed in the ISKA Sydney City Open Martial Arts Championships in the Advanced Division for both Traditional Forms and Points Sparring. He came away with wins in both categories and had to defeat over 26 competitors to win.

Well done Dane!

**Bowhunters’ Association National Championships**
Congratulations Georgia!

If you go out in the woods today ... beware **Wollondilly Anglican College’s own Australian Junior Girls’ Bowhunter Champion, Georgia Deer**. Mild mannered and sweet, Georgia turns into a fierce combatant, and is not to be trifled with when she can lay her hands on some string and a sturdy piece of wood. Georgia does not use high tech compound bows – settling instead for the type that made Robin Hood famous in the Forest of Sherwood.
ST MARK’S ANGLICAN CHURCH, PICTON

On Sunday, 21 June our Band, String Ensemble and Choir are performing as part of the Winter Music Concert at St Mark’s Church in Picton. The Concert starts at 2.30 pm in wonderful acoustics of St Marks Church. Many local musicians are performing and it should prove to be a wonderful afternoon of music. Our Band, Strings and Choir members are asked to be at the Church by 2.00 pm. Audience members are asked to be seated by 2.25 pm for a 2.30 pm start.

Please come along and enjoy a great afternoon of music, worship and seeing our wonderful musicians perform at a great local venue. Hope to see you there.

Mr Simon Denley
Creative Arts and LOTE Co-ordinator

F.L.O.W.E.R.S. Canteen & Cafeteria

Scarves, gloves, soccer socks and excursion bags are available for purchase from the Canteen. Canteen roster:

Friday, 5 June  
Judy Scholes  
Help needed

Monday, 8 June  
Public Holiday  
Help needed

Tuesday, 9 June  
Michelle Clark  
Help needed

Wednesday, 10 June  
Hannah Warland  
Help needed

Thursday 11 June  
Lesley Bramich  
Help needed

Friday, 12 June  
Help needed  
Help needed

Monday, 15 June  
Help needed  
Help needed

Tuesday, 16 June  
Diane Clark  
Help needed

Wednesday, 17 June  
Judy Scholes  
Help needed

Thursday, 18 June  
Angela Sarkis  
Help needed

Friday 19 June  
Susan Kellert  
Help needed

If anyone is available to help out on the days noted “Help needed” please let me know.

We now have tubs of plain sugar free yoghurt for sale at $2.00. It is delicious!

New to the menu are pods of plain yoghurt with muesli on top $2.50 (this yoghurt has sugar in it).

RED DAYS will be Wednesday, 17 June and Wednesday, 24 June, so start saving your money.

Think healthy, Eat healthy, Live healthy!

Mrs Carolyn Richards  
Canteen Supervisor
From time to time, families undergo trauma such as severe or terminal illness. There are short term support structures in place at the College to assist families during these times. Please continue to contact Mrs Hay at the College or Mrs Buick, to assist. Confidentiality will be respected when requested.

**The Oaks/ Burragorang Cricket Club**

Cricket is Back. For more info ring Bob on 0418 488 857 or Jeanette on 4657 1100 or email reid.jeanette@bigpond.com or rbadewitz@bigpond.com.

**Little Elves - Vacation Care**

Do you need vacation care for the school holidays? We offer a service that is approved for Childcare Rebate and Childcare Benefits. During the July school holidays some of our excursions are bowling, laser tag, science show and Symbio Wildlife Park. If you have any questions or would like to enrol contact Jennifer from Little Elves OOSH, 0418 814 031.

**TERM SERVICE**

Our next Term Service will be held on Friday, 19 June. There will be another Food Drive held but this time food packages are being put together for families to help with special treats: see list below:

- Cake mixes
- Nut free muesli bars
- Biscuits
- Crackers
- Sultanas and dried fruit mini boxes
- Chips (multi packs)
- Cheese sticks
- Roll ups
- LCM bars
- Tubs of fruit
- Tiny Teddies multi packs
- Shapes multi packs
- Cheese and Biscuits/ Vegemite and Biscuits/ Le Snacks

**Mrs Carolyn Clark**

Secondary Teacher (German)

Please Note that this page is a service to the Community and items advertised do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the College. The College tries to be selective with what is advertised but cannot take responsibility. Please look into events advertised carefully.
Wollondilly Anglican Community Church (WACC) meets in the Clifford Warne Auditorium every Sunday at 9.00 am. Contact: Rev Rob Meischke 0437 533 106.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Sometimes we can get so caught up in our busyness and our stresses that the whole idea of peace doesn’t even come into our thinking. Time pressure and emotional intensity can become so normal that we resign ourselves to it. And yet, Jesus still offers us peace. Not just non-violence or calm, but a deep, overwhelming contentment and satisfaction that all is good, no matter what.
Pretend Headmaster Ava Feltham (KS) pauses on her rounds to admire the Waratah sculpture by artist Ross Fairley.

PRAYER POINTS

Thank God
- That He listens – and wants us to talk to Him.
- For the talents of our athletes – and for the big hearts of students of all abilities who get in and have a go.
- That He has a wonderful vision for this College and that He blesses us so richly each day.

Ask God
- For continued growth in all the churches of the area as they reach out to share God’s Word.
- To protect the ministers and youth leaders in our local churches from harmful thoughts, words and deeds.
- To teach us patience that we may better know His will for our lives.

Psalm 127:1 Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.